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(NY)(NY & NJ) (NY & DC)

May 17, 2007

Hon. Denny Chin United States District Judge Daniel Patrick Moynihan Courthouse Room 1020 New York, NY 10007-1312 Via Fax: (212) 805-7906

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Guimaraes v. Speiser Krause No. 05 CV 2210 (DC)(S.D.N.Y.)

Dear Judge Chin:

On December 19, 2006, the Court allowed Speiser Krause to amend its Answer to include a second counterclaim for plaintiff's tortious interference. At our last conference on April 27, 2007, the Court granted plaintiff's request for permission to move for summary judgment on defendant's counterclaims, which motion is to be filed by May 31, 2007. I write in accordance with the Local Kules to request a pre-motion conference, and to obtain the Court's permission to cross-move, on that same briefing schedule, as follows:

- Plaintiff's first counterclaim seeks indemnification or contribution from Guimaraes of the recently-dismissed companion Minitti action (No. 04 CV 07976). This counterclaim was made prior to discovery, and also prior to the dismissal of the Minitti case. Speiser Krause's damages in obtaining suramary dismissal were both real and substantial. In conformity with Fed. R. Civ. Pro. 8(a)(3), Speiser Krause requests the opportunity to clarify that the damages and requested relief included the costs incurred by Speiser Krause in defense of the Minitti action. The plaintiff objects to including the cost of the Minitti defense within our indemnification claim.
- Speiser Krause's Answer alleges affirmative defenses of Estoppel (3rd Affirmative 2. Defense), Unclean Hands (6th Affirmative Defense), and Unconscionability (18th Affirmative Defense). While these affirmative defenses imply plaintiff's breaches of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, this defense is not explicit in the pleading. Fed. R. Civ. Pro. 8(c) requires affirmative allegation of "any other matter constituting an avoidance or affirmative defense." Plaintiff's most recent deposition was held on April 25, 2007. Plaintiff's testimony confirmed that he sought to prevent Speiser Krause's performance of the alleged contract and deprive Speiser Krause of the bargained-for benefit thereof./To avoid any claim of "surprise" at trial, Speiser Krause would like to amend its Answer to include this defense.

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Hon. Denny Chin Guimaraes v. Speiser Krause No. 05 CV 2210 May 17, 2007 Page 2.

3. Plaintiff recently served a privilege and work-product log of documents that have been withheld from production. Besides for being very late, the documents appear to be mere business correspondence with other attorneys, rather than attorney-client or work product communications. After receiving our written objection to the privilege log, Plaintiff replied that it would not produce these documents. We ask that the Court order Plaintiff to produce these documents as "confidential / attorneys eyes only." If there is a genuine issue of privilege, it may be addressed by a motion in limine regarding their use at trial.

The defendant has attempted to resolve the above issues with plaintiff's consent and has been unsuccessful.

Respectfully,

cc: Berman, Kean & Riguera